

Weekly National Intelligencer

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THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

MR. DOUGLAS'S SPEECH.

The Illinois press bring us a report of an elaborate speech delivered by Senator DOUGLAS at Chicago on the 9th of November, in defence of the provisions and principles of the Nebraska bill and of his course in the Senate on that measure. The prominent part taken by the Senator in the passage of that mischievous bill, and the weighty responsibility which it has carried with it, gives him a claim to be heard in his own defence; and, considering that this journal was among the foremost in questioning the propriety of his course, it is due to the fairness which we endeavor to practise towards political adversaries that we should give to this speech of Mr. DOUGLAS a place in our columns, although it fills so large a number of them. We accordingly in the succeeding pages.

BREMEN MAILS.

We are requested to state that the next steamer on the Bremen Line will not depart from New York until the 27th day of January, 1855.

In the mean time, correspondents writing to Germany should direct their letters to "either in the open mail to England, or by the 'Prussian Closed Mail.'" When directed to be forwarded in the open mail, the United States postage of five or twenty-one cents the single rate must be pre-paid; five cents when forwarded by British and twenty-one cents when by United States steamers. The Prussian closed mail rate is thirty cents, pre-payment optional.

REDUCTION OF POSTAGE TO CHINA.

We are authorized to say that, owing to a reduction of the British postage beyond England, the single rate for letters between the United States and China, (except Hong-Kong,) via England, will hereafter be thirty-three cents instead of forty-five cents, when sent via Southampton, pre-payment required; and forty-three cents instead of sixty-five cents the quarter ounce, or fifty-three cents instead of seventy-five cents the half ounce, by closed mail via Marseilles, pre-payment also required.

On letters to Hong-Kong, either via Southampton or via Marseilles, the United States postage only should be pre-paid, viz. twenty-one cents the single rate of half an ounce or under when the Atlantic conveyance is by United States steamers, and five cents when by British steamers, leaving the remainder to be collected at Hong-Kong.

RESTORATION OF THE MISSOURI LINE.
A writer in the Daily South Carolinian, under the signature of "Calhoun," strongly urges the re-establishment of the Missouri compromise line. The South, he thinks, was badly duped in the passage of the Nebraska-Kansas bill; and, without in the slightest degree censuring those Southern members of Congress who voted for the ill-adviced obliteration of the line, he advises that they retrace their steps at the earliest opportunity.

[Fayetteville Observer.]

The late avowals of some of the leading Northern Democrats that breaking down the line was sure to have the effect of preventing the creation of any more slave States were certainly not calculated to give Southern politicians a very encouraging prospect.

NAVAL.—A letter dated on the 20th instant at Warrington, near Pensacola, says:

"A day or two since Mr. WHEELER, our Minister to Central America, was received on board the frigate Columbia with the usual salute due his rank. The frigate sails in a few days with him and Consul FARRIS, of Greytown, on board."

"The steam-ship Princeton, H. EXLIE, leaves this anchorage to-morrow (orders to that effect having been received here by telegraph) to go in search of the U. S. sloop-of-war Albany, supposed to be lost, as she has not been heard of since sailing from Aspinwall for New York about the 27th of September. The report is that she was foundered in a gale in the Gulf, and that all hands, or nearly all, perished. What is the foundation for this cannot be ascertained. A more hopeful supposition is that she may be wrecked on some out of the way key or island, and that her crew and officers are all safe, as is, perhaps, the vessel herself. There is much anxiety felt here in naval and all other circles as to her fate."

THE GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK.—The official vote, as published in the Albany Argus, gives the following result:

For Myron H. Clark.....	156,770
For Horatio Seymour.....	156,455
Daniel Ullman.....	122,154
Green C. Bronson.....	34,002

Mr. Clark's plurality over Gov. Seymour is 315, and he is elected. The united vote of Messrs. ULLMAN and BRONSON, it will be seen, falls several hundred votes below the poll of either of the leading candidates.

MR. WILLIAM H. BISELL.—We are gratified to learn, as we are sure every reader will be, that this respected Representative from Illinois has so far recovered from his late protracted illness as to be enabled to resume his position in our national halls of legislation. We believe that he was in Baltimore yesterday, and that he is expected in this city to-day.—Globe.

ANOTHER CONSULAR DIFFICULTY.—A Buenos Ayres correspondent of the New York Post announces that Mr. Consul HOPKINS has got himself into difficulty with the Paraguayan Government, and all communication with him has been suspended. He has also been required to quit the barracks of San Antonio, where he has his cigar factory. Mr. Hopkins, in turn, has refused to go. The quarrel, we are happy to add, appears to be a private one, and will not necessarily involve the honor or dignity of the United States.—Balt. Amer.

ANOTHER BANK DEFEALCATION.—Another defealcation in a bank was made known at New York on Monday afternoon. One day last week the paying teller of the National Bank, Mr. Thomas Howland, was met when in a fit of confidence stated to the porter that he was a large defaulter to the bank. This being reported on the following morning to the president, Mr. James Gallatin, the books were examined and a sum of about \$70,000 was found abstracted, and Mr. Howland confessed to having discounted and bought some bills of exchange, and to having given up, so that the bills of credit proved good the bank was not sustained. But the delinquent intended to do so, but it was stated that he was about to start on a European tour had he succeeded in his plans, which would have done him but no harm, as he had destroyed himself while drunk.—N. Y. Evening Post.

THE CASE OF MR. SOULE.

MR. WALSH, the enlightened Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, and formerly the correspondent of the National Intelligencer, accompanies the announcement of the settlement of the Soule affair with the following remarks:

"MR. MASON, in my humble opinion, has acted judiciously in accepting what has been done, since the French Government had but exercised an unquestionable right. There is no concession to his view of immunity for the Envoy, the representative of the United States. To interdict Mr. SOULE from sojourn in any part of the Empire is just as much a disregard of his diplomatic quality and pretensions as the refusal to admit him would have been. By the restriction imposed on him to simple passage he is the more signalized as personally obnoxious. If it were not so convenient for him to take the route of France to Spain, instead of proceeding by sea from England, he would probably recoil from the leave of transit, qualified as it is, which the French Government thought to be consistent with 'public order' and expedient for reconciliation with the Minister of the United States at Paris. A plain lesson is administered to him in the first paragraphs of the *Moniteur* article, and the insertion of the elaborate article of the London Times in the official paper and the semi-official journals might answer as explanation and admonition for his country. The writers on the law of nations concede in general to public ministers a quasi right of innocent passage through the territory of a friendly State, but the Government of the State is to judge of the innocence; that is, whether the passage be without injury or sinister design."

"You will perceive that, according to the *Moniteur*, all that the French Government has done was of its own motion, and before the intervention of the Minister of the United States. The diplomatic *esprit de corps* contributed naturally to excite Mr. Mason. Mr. SOULE appealed to him, and he heard of a ferment in London as well as in Paris among Americans, from a hasty conclusion of outrage on the dignity of the Republic in the person of the Envoy."

"National spirit, pride, sensibility, are salutary and even laudable in themselves within just limits and on proper occasions. We should ask ourselves, can our Government, by investing a revolutionary propagandist with the quality of its envoy or other diplomatic agent abroad, assure to him impunity for whatever he may attempt? Is there not always danger of collision with foreign Governments when citizens of foreign birth, who had been ardent party politicians in their native land, are selected for our legations? Do they ever cease to be inflamed with their original political passions or to resent their compulsory exile? Do they not return to their old connections and projects at home? The President of the Union, as Chief Magistrate, a religious man, a Christian, should rigidly discountenance duelling diplomacy. A fierce hectoring style on the part of his elect is as little consistent with national dignity as it is likely to be successful in the end for any good purpose. That extreme American sensitiveness to which the London Daily News refers might be corrected in a degree by a retrospect of the acts of our own Government towards Ministers accredited at Washington. The *Havre* journal, in a very sensible and friendly article on the Soule case, cited the treatment of Major POGGESS as one of far greater severity and provocation. Let your readers consult the instances of Chevalier d'Arno and Copenhagen Jackson, as they were related in the 2d and 3d volumes of Hildreth's History."

COLLISION AND LOSS OF A STEAMER.
The steamer Ocean, Capt. DONOVAN, left her wharf in Boston at 5 o'clock on Friday evening for the Kennebec river, having about eighty passengers. At half-past five o'clock, when about half a mile south of Deer Island, she was run into by the steamship Canada, from Liverpool, which struck the Ocean about the larboard wheel-house, cutting her down to the water's edge. The Ocean took fire almost immediately, from the upsetting of a stove, and so rapid was the conflagration that she was burnt to the water's edge in about half an hour.
The boats of the Ocean, as well as of the several other steamers and ships in the vicinity, were immediately put in requisition for the safety of the passengers and crew, yet, notwithstanding all the efforts that were made, several lives were lost. The scene was truly terrific, as described by those who witnessed it, and as the passengers were transferred to the several steamers and ships the suspense in which those who were saved were kept for several hours as to the fate of their friends was of the most harrowing character. Before the last passengers left the wreck she was so nearly consumed that they were obliged to hang upon the guards and get as near water as possible.

The Canada was backed after striking the Ocean, and anchored near Long Island head, where she remained until a late hour at night. The Forest City, after rendering what assistance she could, returned to Boston with about twenty-five passengers, the dead bodies of a man, a woman, and a child, who apparently died in the water, and several wounded persons. Capt. Berry, of the Quaker, carried to the city thirty-five or forty male passengers, who were picked up by the boats of the Canada. Eight or ten ladies and a little boy, about four years old, remained on board the Canada. The steamer Boston, it is presumed, also rescued many.

The collision is partly attributable to the fact that the four Eastern steamers, Ocean, Boston, Forest City, and Eastern Star, were all in close proximity between Deer Island and Long Island, on their way out, and were there unexpectedly met by the Canada, which in vain endeavored to avoid a contact.

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THE TEXAN RANGERS.
The Austin Times states that the several companies called out by the Governor of Texas under the requisition of Gen. SMITH, and by authority of the Secretary of War, have been at their rendezvous in that place for a week previous to the 4th of November. The men are generally finely mounted and well commanded. The original call (the Times says) was for twelve months' service; subsequently this period was reduced to six months; and, finally, an order was received, after a portion of the companies had arrived at the rendezvous and when the remainder were en route for that point, that their services would not be required at all.

EVACUATION DAY.—The 25th November completed seventy-one years since the British troops evacuated the city of New York, and closed the military part of the Revolutionary drama. The event was appropriately celebrated on Saturday last by the military companies of the city, Gen. VAN RENSSELAER, chief of the veterans, commanding.

Railroad communication will soon be complete between Terre Haute and Evansville, Indiana. A connection with St. Louis, Missouri, is the main object in view.

FROM SANTA FE.
INDEPENDENCE, Nov. 21.—The Santa Fe mail arrived at 5 o'clock this evening. There is no news of interest. The trip from Santa Fe to Red River was a bad one. The party had to cut through snow banks averaging from seven to nine feet deep. The principal depth of snow between the above mentioned places was from two-and-a-half to three feet. From Red River to this place the roads were tolerably good. The party encountered one snow storm on the *forzada*; most emigrants The Osages and Comanches were camped on the *Chimere*; they all seemed peaceable. Saw many quantities of buffaloes from the crossing of the Big Arkansas to the Little Arkansas.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Message of Gov. REID to the Legislature, now in session, presents a very cheering view of the affairs of this good old Commonwealth.

The Governor refers to the blessings bestowed upon the people by a kind Providence, especially in their exemption, to a considerable extent, from the diseases and calamities which have visited other States and nations, and gives his congratulations upon the spirit of progress and improvement which animates the people, indicating a bright prospect for the destiny of the State. He mentions the improvements in agriculture, and the facilities afforded the farmer and mechanic in a cheap and expeditious mode of transportation for their surplus products. The means of education by the University, the numerous colleges and academies, and by the common schools are noticed in appropriate terms. The latter system is doing incalculable good. The sum of \$180,850 has been distributed from the literary fund during the year for common schools. The University educates gratuitously a number of meritorious young men every year. The geological examinations are almost daily disclosing valuable additions to the inexhaustible mineral wealth of the State. The faith of the State has been scrupulously preserved, and her credit stands deservedly high, both at home and abroad. The institution for the education of the deaf and dumb and the blind is in successful operation, and affords great facilities for imparting instruction to the unfortunate class for whom it was established.

The Governor dwells at some length upon free suffrage, and recommends action upon the subject by an amendment of the Constitution through the Legislature. This is but a running notice of what the Governor says upon the subjects referred to. We quote his own words upon agriculture and to some extent upon internal improvements:

"Agriculture is the great interest of the State, and upon its success depends the prosperity of all other industrial pursuits. This important interest has been too much neglected. The agricultural survey of the State will not be attended with highly beneficial results. The same may be said of the act passed by the last Legislature to encourage agriculture, domestic manufactures, and the mechanic arts. It is the paramount duty of every well-regulated Government to extend due encouragement to those engaged in the cultivation of the soil. There is no pursuit more honorable or better calculated to promote the happiness of man, and none more important to the preservation of republican institutions. A new impulse has been given to this branch of industry that is perceptible in every part of the State. The tide of emigration which has hitherto drained North Carolina of her wealth and population has already been stayed, and the enterprise and capital of other portions of the country are now attracted within her limits, affording evidence of prosperity, and contributing towards her advancement to the high position she is destined to occupy."

"Intimately connected with the prosperity of agriculture, manufacturing, and mining stands the subject of internal improvements. Commerce in this age is an essential element, without which the great industrial pursuits must languish. That which is comparatively valueless in one part of the world often becomes a vast mine of wealth when conveyed to another. The value of commerce does not consist in the profitable exchange of commodities alone, but it enables us also to avail ourselves of the improvements and knowledge of every part of the globe. The geographical position of the State is such that her immense stores of wealth could be of little advantage in the scale of commerce were it not for inland improvement. To the full development of our resources there are presented many obstacles which appear almost insurmountable; yet we ought to remember that these are more than compensated by the great advantages we enjoy. When we reflect that others have overcome greater obstacles there is no cause to despair; for when we consider health, comfort, salubrity of climate, and capacity for agriculture, manufacturing, and mining, North Carolina is not surpassed by any State in the Union. A judicious system of internal improvements by the State has ever been regarded as a subject of great importance, and entitled to the favorable consideration of the General Assembly. The improvements already completed, as well as those in the course of construction, have been productive of very important advantages; but they are still far from affording facilities adequate to the wants of the people. There never was a time when there existed a stronger necessity for self-reliance."

The importance of building up commercial and manufacturing towns and cities at home is urged in a forcible manner. Wild and visionary schemes the Governor suggests, very properly, should be avoided, and the credit of the State inviolably maintained.

The railroads now in operation are shown to be prosperous, and those in the course of construction promise additional advantages. Attention is also invited to the common public highways, upon which legislation is needed to equalize the burdens upon the people.

The amount of the public debt of the State is very small; only \$2,806,270. Some alterations are proposed in the revenue system to equalize the burden of taxation, the discriminations at present being unjust.

The subject of Banks is referred to, and the Governor thinks the present amount of banking capital is inadequate to the wants of the public, and that new banks might be located at some points where none now exist.

It is also suggested that there be erected on the Capitol square, in the city of Raleigh, two small but neat and appropriate monuments—one to the memory of the officers and soldiers of the Revolution, and the other to the memory of the signers of the Mecklenburg declaration of independence. We like to see the people of the present generation mindful of the gallant deeds of those who secured them the "pearl above price."

The Governor makes a statement of a fact known ever beyond the limits of the State, that North Carolina has been pre-eminently blessed in the wholesome administration of justice in her courts. The integrity and wisdom of her judges have secured this good result.

The Governor closes his interesting Message with a rather sombre view of national affairs. He considers "the bright prospect of State affairs somewhat clouded by the reckless spirit of fanaticism, which threatens the violation of the Constitution and the dissolution of the Union." He accordingly advises the Assembly "to declare, firmly and decidedly, that we shall require the compromises of the Constitution to be observed in good faith on the part of the North, and that North Carolina knows her rights and will maintain them."

This is the last message of Governor REID, his term expiring on the 1st of January next, after which he will take his seat in the Senate of the United States.

THE NEW TERRITORY, (SONORA.)

The settlement of the new territory acquired by the late treaty with Mexico has already commenced in California and Texas. A party of twenty-five left Los Angeles on the 23d of October, under the lead of Lieut. BRANT, who was attached to the surveying party of Capt. GRAY in the former boundary commission. While on that service he acquired a very minute knowledge of the territory along the line of exploration, and gave such a flattering account of his discoveries that a preliminary party has started to take possession of the choice spots which he is capable of pointing out. This expedition is not a mere prospecting trip, but is based on actual knowledge derived from personal explorations; and therefore a very prosperous settlement, to be largely increased by immigrants from California and Texas, is confidently anticipated. This party intends to erect a fort either at Tumacacori, Tubac, or Calabazas, and it is understood that authority is to be given to the commanding general of the Pacific division to establish a military garrison at the point which shall be selected as most favorable.

A new map of the country acquired from Mexico is in preparation at San Francisco. It makes many corrections in the received topography of important spots and places, and makes large corrections in the reported distances between known places.—*Freemason*.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

From the Commander of the French Army.

SEBASTOPOL, October 22.
MOSCOW BY MAIL.—Our work of approach continues in the way I indicated in my previous despatch of the 18th. I have no time to write at great length, but I have the honor to send you the journal of the siege, which will make known to you the whole state of our operations. The difficulties which we have met with are of two kinds: those which result from the nature of the soil, the upper stratum of earth diminishing as we approach the place, and the thick ground from the number and the calibre of the guns which the enemy oppose to us on a very extended front, and nearly in a right line. The resources which the enemy derives from his ships in the port, and in the fortifications, are almost inexhaustible, whilst ours, although increased by what we get from the two fleets, are necessarily limited. Guns of 68 pounds and heavy mortars are the kind of artillery to which we have almost exclusively to rely. This state of things makes the siege of Sebastopol one of the most laborious operations which have yet been witnessed in the history of war. It is necessary to make a very plain statement of the progress of the operations of the 20th. The enemy made an attempt to spike our guns, in which they failed. Some men, who had managed to get into the batteries by surprise, were killed, with the exception of one, who was wounded. The success which we experienced from the fire of the enemy are not so considerable as might be expected from the difficulties which I have pointed out to you. I send my wounded to Constantinople by the means placed at my disposal by the fleet, as the hospital arrangements are there in a highly satisfactory manner. The facility of repairing our wounded, whatever sickness prevails is caused by the excessive fatigue which our brave soldiers have to undergo. The gunners landed from the vessels also suffer; they conduct themselves with a courage and devotedness which are remarked by the whole army.

Accept, &c. CANROBERT.

From the Commander of the British Army.

SEBASTOPOL, October 23.
MR. LORD DUKES.—The operations of the siege have been carried on unintermittently since I addressed your Grace on the 18th instant. On that afternoon, the French batteries not having been able to re-open, the enemy directed their guns almost exclusively on the British entrenchments, and maintained a very heavy fire upon us till three o'clock in the morning. The enemy's fire was directed upon the batteries which had been previously destroyed, and with fewer casualties, than might have been anticipated. On the following morning, shortly after daylight, Gen. Canrobert not only resumed his fire from the batteries which had been injured, but materially added to the weight of his attack by the fire of batteries which had been constructed the previous day. The operations have continued ever since; and he has had in his power to push his approaches forward, and like the English, materially to injure the defenses of the place; but these are as yet far from being subdued, neither is a serious diminution of their fire perceptible. Our fire has also been continued, and the enemy has succeeded in some of his attempts to break down our batteries, and to replace many of the guns that have been destroyed in a very short space of time, and to resume their fire from works which we have succeeded in capturing. The facility of repairing and re-arming the defenses naturally renders the progress of the assaults slower than could be wished; and I have not in my power to inform your Grace, with any thing like certainty, when it may be expected that ulterior measures may be undertaken.

I have the honor to transmit to you, your Grace, a return of the number of the British and French troops, inclusive. In my last I announced to your Grace the death, which had just been reported to me, of that deeply-lamented officer the Hon. Col. HOON, of the Grenadier Guards. No other military officer has since fallen; but Major Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar was slightly wounded on the 19th. His Serene Highness insisted, however, upon remaining in the trenches until the detachment to which he was attached was relieved at the usual hour, and he has now resumed his duty. Capt. LORD DUKES, of the Coldstream Guards, was unfortunately taken prisoner yesterday morning, and before he was released, he was severely wounded. The naval batteries have continued their exertions without intermission, and I regret to have to report the death of two gallant officers of the Royal navy, the Hon. Lieut. BETHUNE, who has died of his wounds, and Lieut. GREATER, of her Majesty's ship Britannia. Both are universally regretted. The result of the recent action of the 19th, was, after having used the language of Brigadier-General EYRE, who was then in charge of the trenches, "performed his duty in the batteries in a manner that excited the admiration of all."

A considerable body of Russians appeared two days ago in the vicinity of Balaklava, but they have since withdrawn, and have no longer to be seen in our front. I have reason to believe that Prince Menshikoff is not in Sebastopol. He is stated to have placed himself with the main body of the army in the field, which is represented to be stationed in the plain south of Bakhch-Sarai. Admiral Raglan, the chief of the fleet, has been temporarily in command of the harbor, commanding the approaches by sea and land. I have sent the Albion and Arctura to Constantinople to repair; the other ships of the fleet have fished their masts, &c. and are ready for service. 6. The Lynx, Sphinx, Stromboli, and Viper have arrived. 7. The weather hitherto has been very favorable, and the operations of the army have generally proceeded with success. 8. The English and French steam divisions still continue in the Bay of Odessa, actively employed in preventing communication with the Crimea. I have, &c.

J. W. D. DUNDAS, Vice-Admiral.

From the Admiral of the British Fleet.

BRITANNIA, OFF THE KATCHA, Oct. 23, 1854.
SIR: I beg to acknowledge the information of the Lord Commander of the Admiralty, that since my departure from the 18th instant the siege batteries have continued their fire against the Russian works, which appear to have suffered much and the fire slackened, although it is considerable. 2. The Naval Brigade are doing good service, and up to the 20th, had a loss of twelve killed and fifty-three wounded. By the desire of Lord Raglan I have reinforced them by 410 officers and men, and placed Lord John Hay in the Wasp, under the orders of Capt. Lushington. 3. Capt. Brock, of Eupatoria, supported by the Leander and Megara, has maintained his position well, although surrounded without any danger of being cut off, and with guns. We have drawn large supplies from there, but as the Russians are destroying all the villages, I fear they will in future become very scanty and uncertain. 4. Since the action of the 17th the enemy have been working incessantly in repairing their batteries and in constructing new works on the heights of Borikouk, and the approaches by the fortifications of Borikouk. 5. I have sent the Albion and Arctura to Constantinople to repair; the other ships of the fleet have fished their masts, &c. and are ready for service. 6. The Lynx, Sphinx, Stromboli, and Viper have arrived. 7. The weather hitherto has been very favorable, and the operations of the army have generally proceeded with success. 8. The English and French steam divisions still continue in the Bay of Odessa, actively employed in preventing communication with the Crimea. I have, &c.

J. W. D. DUNDAS, Vice-Admiral.

RUSSIAN ACCOUNTS.

The *Invalide Russe* and the *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 25th and 26th ultimo contain long reports from Prince MENSCHIKOFF on the military operations of the Russians in the Crimea since the beginning of September; but the chief interest lies in his account of the battle of the Alma, which is as follows:

"On the 8th (20th) of September Prince Menshikoff occupied a position on the left bank of the Alma, with two battalions, sixteen squadrons, and eighty-four pieces of artillery. The centre of the order of battle was formed on the steep bank of the river, opposite the village of Borikouk, and the left wing on a hill at about two versts from the sea; the right wing was the weakest point of the position. In front of the line of battle the heights of Borikouk and the adjoining vineyards were occupied by sharpshooters. Behind the centre was posted a reserve of three regiments of infantry, (those of Volynia, Minsk, and Moscow,) with two light-foot batteries; on their right the two regiments of Hussars, with two light-foot batteries; and on the right of these the two regiments of Hussars, with two light-foot batteries; and behind the right wing the regiment of Chasseurs of Ouglietz. A reserve battalion of the regiment of Minsk had been detached to occupy the village of Borikouk, behind the left flank of the position, close to the sea coast. At noon the enemy marched upon the Alma and suddenly attacked our position. Their right wing consisted of the French and their left of the English. The Turks remained in reserve behind the French troops. Both advanced with precision in extended lines, under the

protection of a thick chain of sharpshooters armed with carbines. Our reserve met the enemy with a well-directed fire, and in a few minutes a sharp fire of small arms was opened all along the line of battle. From the commencement of the battle the numerous sharpshooters of the enemy, armed with carbines with conical balls, made great ravages in our ranks. A great number of officers fell the first victims to this murderous weapon, and this circumstance naturally had a great influence on the further progress of the battle. Our occupying the vineyards of the right bank of the Alma, the second's battalions formed into columns, crossed the river, and deployed again in lines on the opposite bank, notwithstanding the constant fire of our batteries. Prince Menshikoff gave orders to the first line to receive the enemy at the point of the bayonet, in order to drive him over the river again. Several times the battalions, headed by their intrepid chiefs, charged the enemy with the bayonet; but each time meeting with the terrible rolling fire of the deployed line, or by the thick chain of skirmishers with the carbines, they were repulsed with great loss. The enemy's infantry sustained with firmness and without wavering the well-directed fire of our artillery; the deployed battalions lay down and took cover behind the shelter afforded by the ground, while their sharpshooters kept shooting down our artillery men. In one of our divisions of eight guns all the men and horses were disabled. While this was going on, the enemy's batteries were working with great effect, and the fire of our batteries was not able to silence them. The projectiles of the fleet. Under cover of the fire from the ships, a French column, having at its head some African troops called Zouaves, crossed the river, and the Alma near the sea-shore, and rapidly climbed the cliff by a path through a narrow ravine. The appearance of these troops on our flank, and almost on our rear, obliged Prince Menshikoff to bring up from the reserve the regiments of Minsk and Moscow and some squadrons of Hussars. The French had, however, succeeded in establishing a battery on the heights, and took cover behind the shelter afforded by the ground, while their sharpshooters kept shooting down our artillery men. In one of our divisions of eight guns all the men and horses were disabled. While this was going on, the enemy's batteries were working with great effect, and the fire of our batteries was not able to silence them.

The following are the reports of the siege of Sebastopol by Prince Menshikoff, under date of the 17th and 18th:
"OCTOBER 17TH.—In the night of the 16th the enemy pierced our entrenchments, and this morning at six o'clock opened a very active fire against our batteries and bastions, which replied with still greater activity. The fire of the enemy's batteries was directed upon the tower of the Malakoff hill, which was dismounted; but the batteries erected on that side and all the batteries never ceased firing, and with so much success that towards the evening the English had only two pieces remaining to continue the fire. The French batteries had been dismounted, and in consequence of the explosion of their powder magazine. On our side, as far as I can presume before having received detailed information from each battery and each battery, the loss cannot have been considerable; but it is important in this sense, that Gen. Korniloff, struck by a cannon ball in the leg, soon expired. At half-past 12 o'clock, while the cannonading continued from the batteries of the trenches, the enemy placed on the tower of the Malakoff hill were dismounted; but the batteries erected on that side and all the batteries never ceased firing, and with so much success that towards the evening the English had only two pieces remaining to continue the fire. The French batteries had been dismounted, and in consequence of the explosion of their powder magazine. On our side, as far as I can presume before having received detailed information from each battery and each battery, the loss cannot have been considerable; but it is important in this sense, that Gen. Korniloff, struck by a cannon ball in the leg, soon expired. 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